

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Patent Application of:

Masaji HIROTA et al.

Application No.: 10/552,664

Confirmation No.: 2594

Filed: October 11, 2005

Art Unit: 1793

For: METAL CATALYST AND ITS USE

Examiner: M. STALDER

**AMENDMENT SUBMITTED WITH REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION**  
**(RCE) UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

**MS RCE**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated August 12, 2009 and the Advisory Action dated December 2, 2009, the following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application:

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2.

**Remarks** begin on page 5.